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The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, CHARLESTON

TUESDAY | 12.9.08

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CAMPUS | EVENT

Election draws small crowd

Some candidates have campaigned, others haven't

By HEATHER HOLM

Student Government Editor

Only about 75 to 80 students voted today during day one of Student Government elections.

About 50 voted on the booth set up on the south corner of Coleman, and 25 to 30 voted in booth set up near the food court in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union, according to the students overseeing each poll.

Many of the candidates campaigned a little through people they knew or through the Internet.

"I've talked to people in my hall and created a Facebook group," said Thomas Nierman, a freshman undecided major.

Nierman is vying for a spot on Student Senate next semester.

This is the first time he is running.

Drew Griffin, a junior political science major, is running for Student Senate Speaker.

"I personally don't have a campaign," he said. "These are people that have worked with me before, and I have talked to (senate members) on a personal level before."

Griffin currently is a Student Senate member and the chair of the External Relations Committee.

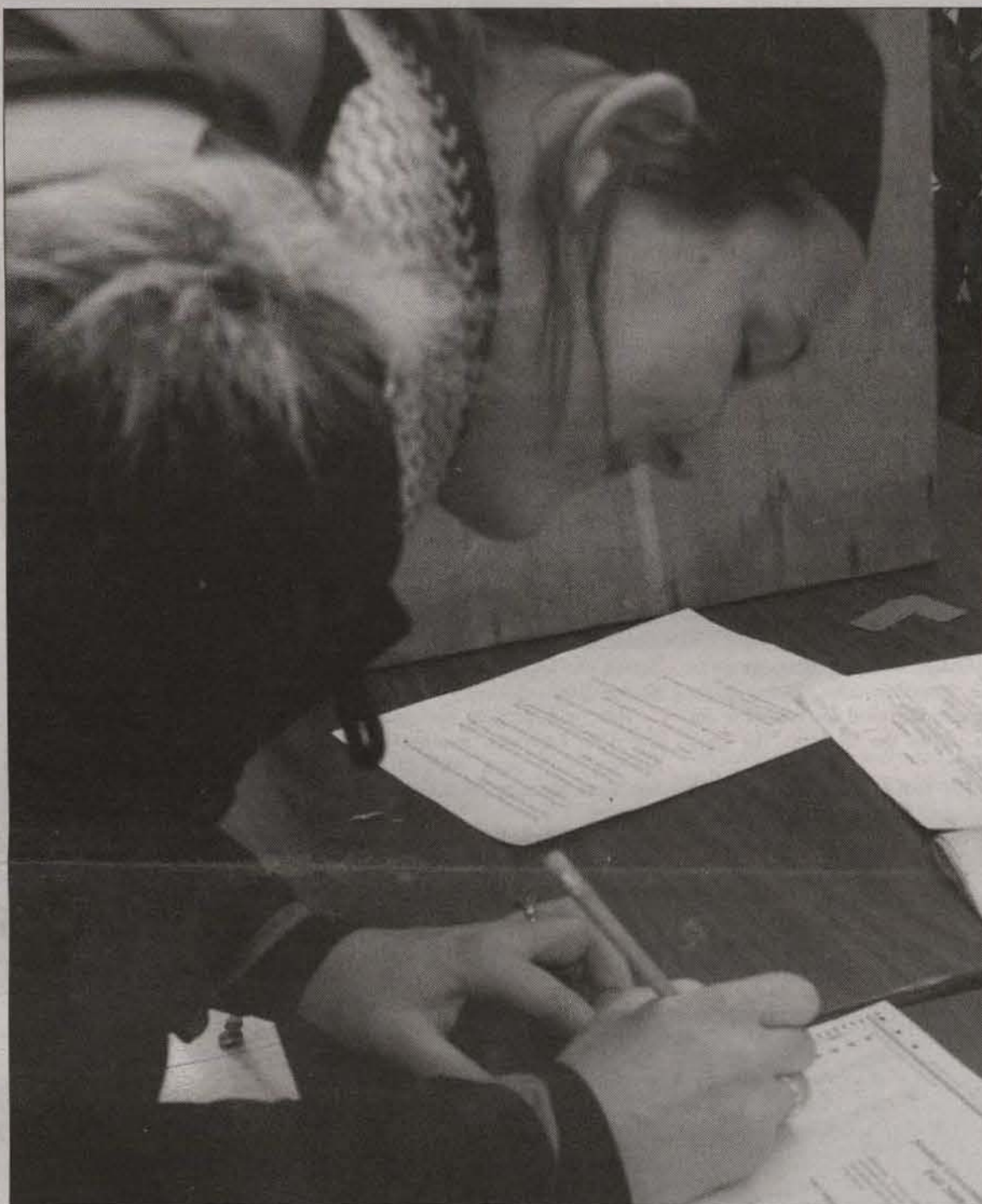
One of his biggest goals is to get Student Government more recognized on campus.

"I want a lot of people running in the spring elections," he said. "I also want more visibility on campus and would like to have appointments done by the first five weeks of the semester, if I do get the speaker position."

Another goal of his is to re-work the Student Body Constitution, so that students could vote on the new one in the spring election.

Griffin thinks he could handle the job of Student Senate Speaker.

"I think I could run a meeting effectively," he said. "I'm excited



KELEY KARSTRAND | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore nursing major Claire Murphy votes for student government Monday afternoon in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. In addition to the polls set up in the union, Coleman Hall has a table set up where students can vote.

about Wednesday night no matter what."

Isaac Sandidge, senior psychology major, will be stepping down as

Student Senate Speaker.

Paul Reid is also running for the position of Student Senate Speaker.

He said he has the support of

Sandidge and Student Body President Levi Bulgar.

» SEE ELECTIONS, PAGE 5

UNIVERSITY | FINANCE

No money available; cut projects could result

Deferred maintenance would increase with possible budget cuts

By EMILY ZULZ

Administration Editor

If the 2.5 percent budget cut that Gov. Rod Blagojevich has requested of public higher education institutions were passed, Eastern's maintenance and utilities would face cuts.

"I hate to see that because that's one of the things we continue to struggle with here is our deferred maintenance, which is a backlog of projects that we haven't been able to get to," said Jeff Cooley, vice president of business affairs. "So any time we start to make cuts,

it's simply going to exacerbate that problem."

Cooley said when the university starts delaying maintenance issues to cut costs, the backlog on the deferred maintenance increases more.

In fiscal year 2007, the accumulation of deferred maintenance was estimated at \$91.9 million.

President Perry outlined in an e-mail to the campus community on Nov. 20 a list of tentative reductions the university would face if legislation had passed for an 8 percent budget cut.

The e-mail listed a reduction of non-safety related maintenance and reduction of utility expenditures as two of six possible cuts.

The 8 percent legislation is no longer under discussion. Perry's

"I hate to see that because that's one of the things we continue to struggle with here is our deferred maintenance, which is a backlog of projects that we haven't been able to get to."

— Jeff Cooley, vice president of business affairs

list of tentative reductions will be looked at for the possible 2.5 percent cut.

Eastern was notified on Nov. 26 that Gov. Blagojevich had requested a 2.5 percent reserve on appropriations for public higher education institutions and agencies.

Gary Reed, director of facilities planning and management, said there are baseline needs that can not be reduced.

"We've got to keep the lights on," Reed said. "We have to keep the buildings operating."

Reed said the president's focus is to take a look at only the safety-related maintenance.

"He's not talking about the operating piece of maintenance, perhaps he's asking us to take a good look at projects that could be delayed if need be," Reed said.

» SEE MONEY, PAGE 5

ACADEMICS | VIEWS

Students agree with CAA on requirement

By BRITTNI GARCIA

Campus Editor

Many students agree with the Council on Academic Affairs' decision on having the original foreign language requirement to remain in place.

Blair Turner, a freshman bilingual nursing major, believes the requirement is very important, but said she can agree with both sides of the argument.

"I think the requirement should stay the same," Turner said. "I think it is very important because of the growing economy and more people will need to be bilingual."

She said whether the ad-hoc committee created by CAA decided on either argument, the requirement is simply needed for students at an institution in Illinois. Having to speak in a different language gives people benefits personally and in the workplace.

Last Thursday, the CAA declined the proposal with a 9-3 decision that would increase the foreign language requirement for all students from two to three semesters.

Hope Nottmeyer, a sophomore English major, is glad the requirement was not increased because she thought it might turn people away from certain majors and minors.

"I think they kept the requirement the same because if it was changed, I think I would have to change my schedule to have all of the requirements," Nottmeyer said.

She said this requirement would cause problems on campus because students may be upset if they have to add more courses in their schedule. Because Nottmeyer is a minor in Spanish, she would not have had a problem with the proposed requirement if the decision was made earlier so she would allow time for herself to schedule her future semesters.

Emily Cronister, a sophomore nursing major, said she is also glad the requirement remained the same because she has already completed the requirements. She also said having two semesters of foreign language is enough for a typical college student who does not have a major or a minor in a foreign language.

"With the decision, it really doesn't affect me," Cronister said.

Being a foreign language minor, Kate Gramley, sophomore communications disorders and sciences major, believes the CAA decided on what fits the university and the students best.

"I am a foreign language minor and it should stay the same," Gramley said.

» SEE AGREE, PAGE 5

CITY | AMBULANCES

Saving money and lives

Ambulances rake in more than \$2 million, cost \$30 per person

By KRYSTAL MOYA
City Editor

Charleston's ambulance service has blossomed.

At the Charleston City Council's Fall Retreat, Fire Chief Kris Phipps announced the city receives a projected \$2 million in revenue from the ambulance service. With the department budgeted at \$2.7 million for the year, the amount paid by taxpayers comes out to approximately \$28.30 per person.

"It is significantly less than towns with about the same size that do not have an ambulance service," said Assistant Fire Chief Pat Goodwin. "Carbondale's people pay about \$125 per person because they don't have the service."

However, Charleston has taken more than 20 years to incorporate the program fully into the fire department. In 1974, the single private ambulance service left town, leaving an ambulance to the city. The department had not had any emergency medical service training prior to the drop.

"It was a necessity, literally," Mayor John Inyart said. "We didn't have the private ambulance service, and we had to pick up the ball and run with it because we didn't have the protection anymore."

Since the incorporation of ambulances into the fire department, the entire staff has become EMS-certified with advanced life support services. The ambulances' coverage has grown to include an approximate 200 square mile area in Coles County.

The ambulances respond to almost 3,000 calls annually and transport more than 2,000 patients, primarily to Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center six miles west of Charleston.

Approximately 87 percent of calls are EMS calls, leaving less than one in five calls to fire related emergencies. Transports to outside hospitals in Champaign, St. Louis and Springfield are also provided by the ambu-



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The city of Charleston provides more \$2 million for its ambulance services and just recently replaced one.

lance services.

"The ambulances make a very positive impression," Inyart said. "They are a tremendous asset to the city and its response area."

The ambulance service also provides ride-along training for other local departments without vehicles that want their EMT trainees to get hands-on experience. Currently, the Charleston Fire Department is working with Ashmore's facility to give hands-on training to their EMT hopefuls.

Goodwin said area fire departments have recently been calling for information on how to incorporate ambulance services into their departments.

"Most departments that do not have ambulance services are facing staffing cutbacks and money loss," he said. "It's the change of the times. We are an ambulance service that puts out a fire now and then."

He added the move to ambulance

services provided by fire stations is more than just a call issue.

"Private and volunteer facilities are losing staff because of the low pay and burn out of the volunteers," he said. "Qualifications and financial security make it hard to hire outside of city departments."

Paramedic training takes approximately 18 months of schooling, a time requirement many volunteer EMTs cannot afford. Goodwin said this puts the CFD ahead of many of the state's facilities.

In addition to training, the four vehicles in the department are equipped with advanced life support – the highest level of aid in ambulance service. Each one can sustain high trauma victims until hospital arrival.

Two vehicles are regularly staffed and used throughout the day, while the two other remain on standby.

Goodwin said, in more recent years, three vehicles are being

deployed more frequently. He added it would be nice to have a fifth vehicle; however, the department does not currently have the staffing.

"We can have the two other staffed in a matter of minutes," Inyart said. "There is no immediate need for growth because we rarely utilize all four vehicles at the same time."

After the budgeted replacement of the fourth vehicle, the city would focus on plans for repairs, extensions or a new fire facility to service the northern edge of town.

Funds from the ambulance services can be allocated to pay for such future renovations.

"We are really proud of not only our department's training and services, but the tremendous value they provide to the taxpayers," Inyart said.

Krystal Moya can be reached at 581-7942 or at ksmoya@eiu.edu.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Couplehood, more to be discussed

Married couple Shirene and Troy, a cross-dresser, will discuss the implications of cross-dressing and marriage, raising children and transgender identity at "Troy/Shayla and Shirene: Couplehood and Cross-dressing Identity" at 6 p.m. tonight in the University Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

EIU Pride is sponsoring the event.

Supplies, funds needed for animal shelter

County Animal Rescue and Education, the Coles County animal shelter, is in need of donations of collars, leashes, water bowls, rubber chew toys or money to raise awareness and make a difference for abandoned pets at the shelter.

Carl Sandburg Elementary School and Petropics, 626 W. Lincoln Ave., are teaming up for the drive.

Petropics will match \$1,500 in donations brought by school children.

Donations can also be dropped off at Petropics or at the shelter.

To get to the C.A.R.E. from Charleston, drive west on Route 16 and take a left on Loxa Road. There will be a sign to direct drivers to the shelter.

The shelter is open from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

—Compiled by Associate News Editor Matt Hopf

BLOTTER

Multiple personal items were reported stolen from a vehicle parked in University Court Friday, said the University Police Department.

Roger Thicklin, 20, of Charleston, was charged with resisting a peace officer after an 11:35 a.m. Friday arrest in Old Main. He was arrested on an in-state warrant in reference to a UPD report, police said.

Diego Llor, 22, of Woodridge, was charged with disorderly conduct after a 3:15 p.m. Friday arrest at the University Police Department. He was arrested on an in-state warrant in reference to an incident that occurred off campus, police said.

Julian Jeter, 18, of Harvey, was charged with theft more than \$300 after a 5:02 p.m. Friday arrest in Carman Hall. He was arrested on an in-state warrant in reference to an incident that occurred off campus, police said.

An Eastern employee received a counterfeit \$20 bill on Friday, police said.

COMMENTS, CORRECTIONS, OR EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our Editor in Chief, Kristina Peters, via: Phone | 581-7936, E-mail | DENeic@gmail.com Office visit | 1811 Buzzard Hall

UNIVERSITY | FACULTY SENATE

Eastern energy, facilities repair on agenda

Deferred maintenance to be major topic

By JOE ASTROUSKI
Administration Reporter

The Faculty Senate will discuss improvements to Eastern's campus during its meeting today.

Jeff Cooley, vice president for business affairs, Ryan Siegel, campus energy and sustainability coordinator, and Gary Reed, director of facilities, planning and management, will all speak at the meeting about Eastern's facilities.

"We're going to talk about renovations and alteration projects...how those are carried out," Reed said. "We'll talk about...what the level of deferred maintenance is on campus."

The senate meets at 2 p.m. in Booth Library Conference Room 4440.

Deferred maintenance is the cumulative costs of repairs to Eastern facilities that are so large the administration cannot afford to spend the money for repairs and thus postpone the repairs.

As of fall 2007, the university had \$90 million in deferred maintenance. The aging steam plant composes 20 percent of the total amount, according to fall 2007 numbers.

Faculty Senate Chair John Pommier said Cooley, Reed and Siegel would also discuss efforts to make Eastern more environmentally friendly.

"We're going to be hearing about green technology on campus...where that's headed," Pommier said.

Eastern has already tried to cut energy costs by installing motion sensor lights, replacing the toilets in residence halls, establishing a recycling program, and purchasing hybrid and electric vehicles.

Eastern has also conducted numerous energy audits, including one in 1995 that resulted in lighting upgrades and high efficiency motors. The audit generated \$500,000 in savings per year.

Recently, Honeywell International conducted an energy audit this semester. The outcome of the audit determined \$80 million worth of projects, including the Renewable Energy Center.

The center, which would have replaced the steam plant, and the other energy projects were put on hold indefinitely in November

because of the receding economy.

The senate will also speak by teleconference with LDL Consulting at today's meeting, said Chat Chatterji, assistant vice president for information technology services.

LDL Consulting has been conducting a survey of Eastern employees, asking them their opinions about ITS, Chatterji added. He said the teleconference would be the LDL's first chance to speak with the senate.

"They will be chatting with Faculty Senate to get their views on ITS's performance," Chatterji said. "Due to timing...this semester, the consultant was not able to have a face-to-face meeting with the Faculty Senate when they were last on campus."

Joe Astrouski can be reached at 581-7942 or at jmastrouski@eiu.edu.

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KEEP THE CHARITIES IN MIND

Penn State U. — As the end of the holiday shopping season looms, many are scrambling to cross off all the names on their shopping lists while staying within their spending budget.

It's not easy with unemployment rates sky-high, consumer spending in the dumps and the stock market struggling. And after the government announced last week that the United States is officially in a recession, many are searching for ways to pinch pennies.

But as we all comb over our budgets in these upcoming weeks to cut costs, we shouldn't forget about one of the most important groups on our list: those in need in our communities.

Nearly everyone is getting hit hard, which makes it even more important to make sure that local organizations serving those more needy than us can continue to provide critical services.

Yet, the nationwide economic woes haven't impacted the Interfraternity Council/Panhellenic Dance Marathon.

Like most charities, Thon relies heavily on individual donors, and Thon officials are confident the organization will continue to be recession-proof as long as small donations continue to flow in.

But since most charities don't have the visibility or nationwide reach of Thon, it falls on us to also keep them in mind.

Local charities, like food banks and the Centre County United Way, help provide food, shelter and medical assistance to the needy in our own community — people you might live down the street from or pass on the way to class.

So as you wrap up your Christmas shopping, throw a few quarters in the Thon can. And if you can't pry open your pocketbook, consider donating your time.

Although we all have less disposable income to shop with this holiday season, don't be a grinch. Bringing happiness to others is often the best bargain around.

Daily Collegian

EDITORIAL POLICY

The editorial is the majority opinion of The DEN editorial board. Reach the opinions editor at:
DENopinions@gmail.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor can be submitted at any time on any topic to the Opinions Editor to be published in The Daily Eastern News.

The DEN's policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words. Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to The DEN at 1811 Buzzard Hall. Letters may also be submitted electronically from the author's EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.

Drawn from the News | Ian Winston

Vegan people vs. the carnivores



STAFF EDITORIAL

Approve the garden project

Eastern's process of going green could take a whole new step. Jamie Flood, a junior sociology major, has been working on an independent study that is proposing a community garden to Eastern's administrative staff.

Gary Foster, sociology department chair, and Gene Deerman, sociology professor, have been working with Flood.

Foster said this process is still in the works, and it would be at least two years before the garden is complete. While this is still a long-term idea, we fully support continuing to beautify our campus, and creating stronger bonds among the inhabitants and the local community.

Foster said, ideally, the garden would be on the southwestern part of campus, but the university would have the final approval of where it would be located. Deerman said the approval could happen as early as the spring.

Community gardens transform empty lots into green, living spaces. They are collaborative projects created by members of the community; residents share in both the maintenance and rewards of the garden. There are an estimated 10,000 community gardens within U.S. cities.

"It is a chance to build personal relationships with not only Eastern faculty, staff and other students, but also a chance to incorporate the Charleston community and create a bond with them as well," Flood said.

That certainly will help community relations.

The next step in their process is waiting for the university to grant them an area of land for use.

"Community garden projects, often take a couple

OUR VIEW

- **Situation:** Eastern has unused lots of campus that are not visibly appealing, but could be transformed into natural plant life.
- **Stance:** The administration should authorize the proposal to make a community garden of an unused lot and make the campus look nicer.

ple years to see development — it takes quite a bit of effort and time," Foster said.

Although it will take a few years for the garden to become sufficient, due to soil treatment and development, Flood along with Deerman want to make this a long-range program. The group also wants have a children's garden that allows kids the chance to plant their own vegetables.

Flood also described the experience of working with the community garden as a "learning laboratory" allowing participants within the garden the chance to continuously learn and work together to produce a sufficient garden.

This garden effort will also help foster a learning environment that can be beneficial to those studying botany, and the garden can also be an educational tool to the community.

"Everyone will get the chance to be a leader," Flood said. "From the construction of the garden to the different soil and rain techniques that we will try to use, there will be many opportunities for everyone to take the leadership position and help others to learn new things."

This addition of a community garden can only help people, and the university should act on it and approve the garden.

Blackwater serves as example

Blackwater USA, a private security contractor hired by the federal government to guard United States diplomats in Baghdad, was careless on Sept. 16, 2007.

Blackwater Worldwide security guards opened machine gun fire on innocent, surrendering Iraqis and launched a grenade into a girls' school during a gruesome Baghdad shooting last year, prosecutors said Monday in announcing manslaughter charges against five guards.

A sixth guard involved in the attack agreed to a plea deal with prosecutors, turned on his former colleagues, and admitting killing at least one Iraqi in the 2007 shooting into Baghdad's Nisoor Square. Seventeen Iraqis were killed in the assault, which agitated U.S. diplomacy with Iraq and fueled anti-American sentiment abroad.

The five guards surrendered Monday and were due to ask a federal judge in Utah for bail.

It has taken more than a year, and now pleas are being entered. Like this trial, the Iraq war has gone on too long. Even with President-elect Barack Obama wanting to be out by 2010, removing our soldiers from Iraq won't be that easy. Obama insisted that Congress should be involved in negotiations on the status of U.S. troops — and that it was in the interests of both sides not to have an agreement negotiated by the Bush administration in its "state of weakness and political confusion."

But with events like Blackwater, only time and

OUR VIEW

- **Situation:** Members of Blackwater USA entered pleas for a manslaughter incident in Iraq.
- **Stance:** These embarrassing attacks destroy U.S. credibility and justice must not be delayed.

actions of political leaders will tell us where the U.S. status of Iraq is.

The guards were charged with 14 counts of manslaughter and 20 counts of attempted manslaughter. They are also charged with using a machine gun to commit a crime of violence, which carries a 30-year minimum prison sentence.

The shootings happened in a crowded square where prosecutors say civilians were going about their lives, running errands. Following a car bombing elsewhere in the city, the heavily armed Blackwater convoy sought to shut down the intersection. Prosecutors said the convoy, known by the call sign Raven 23, violated an order not to leave the U.S.-controlled Green Zone.

Witnesses said the contractors opened fire unprovoked. Women and children were among the victims and the shooting left the square littered with blown-out cars. Blackwater, the largest security contractor in Iraq, says its guards were ambushed and believed a slowly moving white Kia Sedan might have been a car bomb.

But this Blackwater incident is just one example of things that have gone wrong in the war.



GREG SAINER

Let's let it
go already

On Monday, the Supreme Court of the United States rejected an appeal by a New Jersey man to review the citizenship of three presidential candidates, including Barack Obama. This dismissal is the first decision made by the court regarding several cases brought forth by U.S. citizens seeking to have Obama prove his citizenship.

The allegations and discussions about Obama's citizenship have been an ongoing item throughout the entire course of the election, but lawsuits brought against him are only now coming before the Supreme Court. For a time, I did have my doubts about Obama's citizenship, and I was also suspicious of why Obama would not simply prove his citizenship when called upon. But since then, I have decided and discovered that his citizenship should no longer be an issue.

Even though I did not vote for Obama, I have come to terms that he will be the president come January. I am fully willing to pray for him and, as all citizens should, hold him responsible for his actions in leading the country and protecting the Constitution. I have come to believe that pursuing this increasingly futile issue of Obama's citizenship will simply cause conservatives to suffer from our own version of, as columnist David Horowitz put it, "derangement syndrome" about Obama's presidency that liberals have suffered throughout President Bush's tenure.

If it is eventually discovered that Obama is truly not a U.S. citizen, then action should be taken, but I have come to believe that his citizenship is more and more likely to be 100 percent genuine. According to U.S. Constitution Online, Title 8, Section 1401, of the U.S. Code defines true U.S. citizenship from birth. Having looked at those requirements, I now believe that Obama was born a citizen of the U.S., despite his Kenyan father's alien status. With that in mind, I find myself disappointed in the main conservative source of news regarding the citizenship controversy: that being WorldNetDaily, who have failed to bring forth any discussion about the Title 8 definitions.

Although I do agree that the concerns brought forth by WorldNetDaily were originally legitimate and mistakes in presenting all available information might have been made, constantly beating an increasingly dead horse through the courts will not prevent the Electoral College from voting Obama into the presidency on Dec. 15.

Conservatives may not be sworn-in next January, but we can still work to form a more perfect Union, and continuing to fight Obama's citizenship will not help us get any closer. Am I saying that we conservatives need to resort to compromising our values and beliefs in order to work with the liberals in our government? No, but we must remain steadfast in our beliefs while keeping the best interests of the entire country in mind. We should follow the example of conservative leaders, including Rush Limbaugh, who have decided it best not to press the issue. If we are going to help unite our country, fully accepting Obama as the elected president of the U.S. will help greatly in achieving unification.

Greg Sainer is a freshman chemistry major. He can be reached at 581-7942 or at DENopinions@gmail.com.

» Money

FROM PAGE 1

Only safety-related items

Cooley said not all maintenance items would be discontinued.

He said certain safety-related deferred maintenance items would need to continue to be addressed.

"We're prioritizing what those reductions and cutbacks might be," Cooley said.

An example of a maintenance item that could be deferred is masonry on a building that needs repaired to prevent water from coming in, he said.

Sidewalk repairs and painting, Cooley said, are other examples of something that could be deferred.

Safety-related maintenance items that would need to continue to be addressed would include trip hazards on the sidewalks or a handrail that needs replaced, Cooley said.

"Anything that relates to environmental, bodily health and safety we would go ahead and try and get those projects done," he said.

Cooley said if reductions did need to be made, it would be on maintenance items like window replacement.

"That window is not going to be repaired for a period of time," he said. "Now, is that drafty? Well, perhaps. Is that ugly? Yes. So those are the kinds of things that we'll have to put up with a little bit longer."

Deferring some maintenance projects could impact comfort, Cooley said.

A drafty window or a faulty radiator could be put off affecting occupant comfort.

Cooley said at this time he is

not sure how much maintenance would need to be reduced.

He said the university is still looking at the different scenarios of each of Perry's tentative reductions.

"We really don't know the magnitudes of any one of those particular items at this point in time," Cooley said.

No available money

Reed said anything planned at the beginning of the year is already encumbered and tied up in a contract.

"The cancellation of a contract of this sort is impossible this late in the game," he said.

Reed said facilities planning and management will continue to keep moving with projects, but if something comes up, the university will first take a look at the need of the request.

He said if the request is not critical to the operations and maintaining good campus facilities then it will be rescheduled for a later time.

Facilities planning and management receives a base allocation annually for deferred maintenance to be applied to projects at the beginning of each fiscal year.

This money is tied up right now contractually, Reed said.

"By this late in the fiscal cycle, those moneys are pretty well tied up in contracts," he said. "There's not a whole lot of wiggle room."

By mid-year, Reed said the contracts are on board and the projects are moving forward.

"As far as any available funding, that is not possible at this time with those contracts," he said.

Reed said as far as cutbacks go, Perry's focus on the non-safety related maintenance will refer

to projects that come up over time, such as a renovation requests.

If the request is not a safety-related request then it will become a deferred item, he said.

"That's how we're reading that, and we'll certainly comply with what the president wants us to do here," Reed said.

Reed said right now he has no available funding or money.

If the 2.5 percent of the budget was asked to be returned, facilities planning and management could be asked to take the next step and cancel contracts that are currently in process if possible.

"If we're directed to do so, but there would be a cost associated with canceling projects at this phase and consequences that would have to be considered," Reed said.

He said the university is removing rooftop air conditioning systems from areas that are in dire needs for upgrades, which has been planned for many years.

The math classrooms in Old Main have been in poor repair for 10 years at least, Reed said.

This project finally came up in the deferred maintenance planning, Reed said. The Board of Trustees approved the contract, the university awarded the contract and now the project is in process of mobilizing work.

The first step is to decommission the existing system.

"Once you commit to decommissioning the current air conditioning system and pulling it off the roof, you have to proceed with it or there won't be no air conditioning next summer," Reed said.

He said this is an example of consequences that could result if a project was halted.

"Several projects that are in play

"We know times are tough. Economic times are tough. We do not just have money. You can see by the deferred maintenance, we're seriously under funded on our deferred maintenance appropriation anyway. Every dollar we get is wisely planned and well spent. It isn't like there's a lot of available dollars in our critical that can be just taken away at any time."

— Gary Reed, director of facilities planning and management

right now, that we have committed to get done this year, could be stopped if the administration so chose to do that, but there are consequences and it could be costly and you might lose some services that you need next summer," Reed said.

The costs associated with canceling a contract depends on the project.

If contractors have materials already ordered, they would have to cancel their orders, which would result in a restocking charge on the part of the contractor.

Contractors may have made commitments for labor and delaying a project may result in delay

charges.

"We know times are tough," Reed said. "Economic times are tough. We do not just have money. You can see by the deferred maintenance, we're seriously under funded on our deferred maintenance appropriation anyway. Every dollar we get is wisely planned and well spent. It isn't like there's a lot of available dollars in our critical that can be just taken away at any time."

Far exceeding the funding

Reed said he has a five-year plan of deferred maintenance that far exceeds its funding level.

"We have a tremendous backlog of deferred maintenance already, (a budget cut) is just asking us to further add to the deferred maintenance backlog that we already have," he said.

With already more than \$90 million of deferred maintenance needs, the deferred maintenance increases at a regular pace each year at about 1.5 percent because the university does not receive the funds it needs.

Reed said in these situations, rather than keep infrastructure and building conditions where the university would like to have them, Eastern is instead forced to continue to defer and accumulate additional deferred maintenance.

"We may not be able to replace a roof when it's time," Reed said. "We may just have to continue to patch it. We may not be able to replace an air conditioning chiller when it needs to be replaced. We may just keep throwing in repairs and be in a reactive repair mode."

Emily Zulz can be reached at 581-7942 or at eazulz@eiu.edu.

» Elections

FROM PAGE 1

Reid and Griffin will go against each other at Wednesday night's meeting.

Chris Kromphardt is already on Student Senate, but will be running again because his term is up.

He is running for the United Party of Students.

He has done some campaign-

ing on behalf of his party.

"I have gone through personal contact and making sure to remind people to vote," he said.

"Also, a Facebook group was created for my party."

Although the voter turnout numbers appear low, more people traditionally vote for the spring elections.

"There are not as many people in the fall because it is an uncontested election," said Tiffany Turner, student vice president for busi-

ness affairs.

Brittany Wells, a junior elementary education major and first time candidate has the backing of her sorority for the fall elections.

Leanne Koenig, a member of Alpha Gamma Delta, said she has been trying to get her friends and other sorority members to vote for Wells.

"The president of the sorority has been sending out emails telling us to vote for her," she said.

Ashlei Birch, student executive

director of elections, said she and other Student Senate members have been putting flyers around campus and ads in the *Daily Eastern News* to draw attention to the fall elections.

"It is basically more through word of mouth," she said about voter turnout. "In the spring elections, there is a lot more campaigning."

Heather Holm can be reached at 581-7942 or at haholm@eiu.edu.

» Agree

FROM PAGE 1

"It's like with the cultural diversity, you can't force students to do what they don't want to do," she said.

She said this would affect a lot of students and would force people to have more requirements than were informed upon arrival to Eastern.

Brittini Garcia can be reached at 581-7942 or bmgarcia@eiu.edu.

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LOCAL | ENVIRONMENT

Bringing people together

Planned community garden would allow all to develop it

By JOE WOJTYSIK
Staff Reporter

Jamie Flood, a junior sociology major, has been working on an independent study that has turned into much more than just a paper.

With the help of Gary Foster, sociology department chair, and sociology professor Gene Deerman, Flood

has proposed a community garden to the administrative staff at Eastern. A community garden is a take off of the urban gardens that are in city communities, taking a vacant plot of land and creating a garden area for all within the area to benefit.

"It is a chance to build personal relationships with not only Eastern faculty, staff and other students, but also a chance to incorporate the Charleston community and create a bond with them as well," Flood said.

The next step in their process is waiting for the university to grant

them an area of land for use.

"Community garden projects often take a couple years to see development, it takes quite a bit of effort and time," Foster said.

Although it will take a few years for the garden to become sufficient, due to soil treatment and development, Flood along with Deerman hope to make this a long-range program.

"We hope that it will last for many years to come, allowing everyone to benefit and participate," Deerman said.

With the main garden they hope to also have a children's garden that allows kids the chance to plant their own vegetables. Flood described the experience of working with the community garden as a "learning laboratory," allowing participants within the garden the chance to continuously learn and work together to produce a sufficient garden.

"Everyone will get the chance to be a leader," Flood said. "From the construction of the garden to the different soil and rain techniques that we will try to use. There will be

many opportunities for everyone to take the leadership position and help others to learn new things."

Flood's hope is to use university land and recycled materials to create the garden, with hopes of working with a dining hall for two years to use the waste materials and produce composting piles that can be used within the garden cutting down all the waste that is made by the university.

Joe Wojtylak can be reached at 581-7942 or at jdwojtylak@eu.edu.

STATE BRIEFS

The Associated Press

Blagojevich says he doesn't care if taped

CHICAGO — A defiant Gov. Rod Blagojevich says anyone who wants to tape his conversations should feel free to do it openly because doing it "sneakily" smells like Watergate, the scandal that brought down former President Richard Nixon.

"I don't care whether you tape me privately or publicly. I can tell you that whatever I say is always lawful," Blagojevich said Monday after an unrelated press conference outside a shuttered Chicago manufacturing plant.

The *Chicago Tribune* reported last week that federal prosecutors investigating corruption in Blagojevich's administration had taped the governor covertly.

Factory takeover taps into anger at banks

CHICAGO — The nation's grim economy now has a face: employees at a window-and-door factory that went out of business have refused to leave the building.

Instead, they have taken over the plant, becoming a symbol of mounting anger over the government's willingness to bail out deep-pocketed corporations but not ordinary people.

The Republic Windows and Doors factory closed abruptly last week after Bank of America canceled the company's financing.

Since then, about 200 of the 240 laid-off workers have taken turns occupying the factory 50-60 at a time around-the-clock in eight-hour shifts.

Some are assigned to clean the plant and make sure it's safe while others take in food donations brought to the door.

Few details in plan to idle plants

GRANITE CITY — Mayor Ed Hagnauer has seen this St. Louis suburb weather layoffs at steel mills that account for much of its identity and a thick, pungent smell. But new layoffs in coming weeks by a steelmaker planning to idle its 2,200-worker foundry here has him a bit unnerved.

Last week's announcement that United States Steel Corp. — the nation's biggest steelmaker — soon will "temporarily" suspend production at its Granite City Works "is a little different" in this city more accustomed to short, seasonal layoffs — not open-ended ones, Hagnauer says.

STATE | POLITICS

Prison guards hired amid budget mess

The Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD — Just weeks after Gov. Rod Blagojevich announced hundreds of layoffs because of the state budget mess, his administration hired 208 prison guards who don't have a prison to guard, *The Associated Press* has learned.

The Department of Corrections hired the employees for the Thomson Correctional Center in October at a cost of \$10.8 million for their first year of work, according to a review of state records.

They were supposed to provide security at the prison in northwestern Illinois for inmates being transferred from the Pontiac prison, which Blagojevich has said he'd close to save \$4 million a year, a Corrections spokesman said Monday.

But the Pontiac prison is still open because of a lawsuit filed by union officials on behalf of employees. And the Pontiac mayor says his city was "duped" because corrections officials promised jobs for most of the displaced workers.

Without new inmates at Thomson, 89 of the new hires will be reassigned to Stateville Correctional Center in Joliet starting Wednesday, meaning \$9,000 a week in housing

costs, Corrections spokesman Derek Schnapp said.

The turmoil dates back months.

In August, Blagojevich said cuts he made to an unbalanced budget would mean laying off 325 human-services and tourism workers, cutting substance-abuse treatment and closing two dozen state attractions.

By October, when the prison guards were hired, the Legislature had sent the governor more than \$200 million to spare the reductions. Blagojevich laid off 85 employees and closed 20 state parks and historic sites. He said he was using the rest of the money to prevent future layoffs in a weakening economy and facing a budget deficit of up to \$2 billion.

Attrition claims about 50 corrections employees a month, Blagojevich spokeswoman Katie Ridgeway said. She said counting the new positions, the agency's October head count was lower than the number the previous two years.

"Even with our current budget deficit, we still need to make sure that we are filling front-line positions to keep people safe," she said.

Among 179 workers originally targeted for layoff by Blagojevich in August were "front-line" child-abuse investigators and case workers. Those

jobs were restored when lawmakers scraped up extra money.

Blagojevich's plan was to close Pontiac by year's end. To meet that deadline, the new officers had to be hired in October so they could complete a six-week training course and two weeks of orientation at Thomson, Schnapp said.

A lawsuit by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees halted inmate transfers. The next hearing isn't until Jan. 5.

Pontiac workers will still have the right to transfer to other facilities based on seniority, Schnapp said. But he said the agency's contract with AFSCME requires hiring some new employees whenever a facility opens.

Thomson, located near the Mississippi River about 40 miles northeast of Moline, was completed in 2001 but the state has never had the money to fully open it. It has 1,600 unused maximum-security cells and instead houses just 160 minimum-security prisoners with 77 staff members. Complete staffing of Thomson's maximum-security wing would require 534 people, Schnapp said. With the 208 new hires, that leaves 326 at Thomson compared to 570 at Pontiac.

The displaced workers will still be able to get jobs at Thomson or other prisons such as those at Dwight, Dixon and East Moline, Schnapp said.

Pontiac Mayor Scott McCoy has fought the closure, saying it would devastate the city's economy. He isn't convinced there is enough work to go around.

"We were duped," McCoy said. "We were told one thing by the state and promised jobs and that never materialized."

Of the new employees, 89 are ready to go to work, so they will be reassigned to Stateville to spell other workers who would normally have to work overtime, Schnapp said. The department will bus them there Monday and return them to Thomson on Friday.

Housing costs in Joliet will run \$9,000 a week, with some staying in housing on prison grounds and others in hotels. They may only be reassigned for six weeks at a time but Schnapp would not predict what will happen if the Pontiac dispute isn't resolved.

The other 119 recruits finished their six-week academy training on Friday and will go through about two weeks of orientation at Thomson, Schnapp said.

STATE | ECONOMY

Tribune media company seeks bankruptcy protection

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Media conglomerate Tribune Co., smothered by \$13 billion in debt and a drop-off in advertising, on Monday became the first major newspaper publisher to seek bankruptcy protection since the Internet sent the industry into a tailspin.

Most of the company's debt comes from the complex transaction in which the company was taken private, with employee ownership, by real estate mogul Sam Zell last year.

Although Tribune's next major debt payment isn't due until June, the company has been in danger of missing financial targets set by its lenders.

Other newspaper companies have also struggled with their debts, but many have negotiated with lenders to ease their targets in exchange for higher interest rates.

"Tribune's debt was so outsized and so disproportional to its cash

TRIBUNE CO. PROPERTIES

A few of the companies:

Los Angeles Times; Chicago Tribune; The Sun, Baltimore; Sun Sentinel, South Florida; Orlando Sentinel; The Hartford (Conn.) Courant; The Morning Call, Allentown, Pa.; Daily Press, Hampton Roads, Va.; RedEye, Chicago; Hoy, Spanish-language paper; El Sentinel, Spanish papers in Orlando and South Florida; WGN America, cable TV; WGN-AM, Chicago radio station;

WPXI-TV, New York; KTLA-TV, Los Angeles; WGN-TV, Chicago; CLTV, Chicagoland Television; WPHL-TV, Philadelphia; KDAF-TV, Dallas; WDCW-TV, Washington, D.C.; KIAH-TV, Houston; KCPC-TV, Seattle; KMYQ-TV, Seattle; WSFL-TV, South Florida; KWGN-TV, Denver; KTXL-TV, Sacramento, Calif.; KPLR-TV, St. Louis; KRCW-TV, Portland, Ore.; WXIN-TV, Indianapolis; WTTV-TV, Indianapolis; KSWB-TV, San Diego; WTIC-TV, Hartford, Conn.; WTXN-TV, Hartford, Conn.; WXMI-TV, Grand Rapids, Mich.; WPMT-TV, Harrisburg,

Pa.; WGNO-TV, New Orleans; WNOL-TV, New Orleans; Chicago Cubs baseball franchise; Wrigley Field; Classified Ventures; CareerBuilder.com; Apartments.com; Cars.com; NewHomeNetwork.com; Homescape.com; ForSaleByOwner.com; Metromix; Chicago Magazine; Tribune Media Services; Tribune Media Entertainment; TMS Syndicated Products; Zap2it; Tribune Direct; Tribune Entertainment; Tribune Studios.

Source: Tribune Co.

flow compared to these other companies that it can be the sore thumb sticking out rather than an example of the industry," said Ken Doctor, media analyst with Outsell Inc.

The Tribune owns the Chicago Cubs baseball franchise, as well as the *Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *The Sun of Baltimore*, *The Hartford (Conn.) Courant*, six other daily newspapers and 23 televi-

sion stations.

The company's lending agreements require it to keep its debt at a certain point relative to its cash flow.

Those deals become harder to meet as revenue declines, even if the debt itself doesn't increase.

And while Tribune had planned on meeting its obligations with lenders by reaping income from

its various properties, the recession has led consumers and advertisers to severely cut spending this year, exacerbating pressures the industry already was facing because of the migration of readers to the Internet.

To make a debt payment this year, Tribune sold the *Long Island daily Newsday* to Cablevision Systems Corp. for \$650 million.

NATION BRIEFS

The Associated Press

Congress sends

White House proposal

WASHINGTON — Congressional Democrats and the White House worked to resolve their last disputes Monday over terms of a \$15 billion bailout for U.S. auto makers — complete with a “car czar” to oversee the industry’s reinvention of itself — that’s expected to come to a vote as early as Wednesday.

Top Democrats gave the White House their proposal for rushing short-term loans to Detroit’s Big Three through a plan that requires that the industry remake itself in order to survive. The Bush administration gave a cool initial response, saying the measure didn’t do enough to ensure that only viable companies would get longer-term federal help.

Cracks appear in

foreign policy team

WASHINGTON — The first sign of cracks in President-elect Barack Obama’s foreign policy team of rivals emerged on Monday as his choices for secretary of state and U.S. ambassador to the United Nations visited the State Department.

As Secretary of State-pick Hillary Rodham Clinton and U.N. envoy-choice Susan Rice separately visited the diplomatic agency’s headquarters in Washington’s Foggy Bottom neighborhood, persons familiar with the transition said that Rice wants to install her own transition team inside the department.

Head of NYC law firm accused of fraud

NEW YORK — The head of a prominent law firm was charged in a “stunning, brazen fraud” that reaped at least \$113 million in profit by tricking hedge funds into making bogus investments, prosecutors said.

Marc Dreier, 58, was charged in a criminal complaint and by the Securities and Exchange Commission in the alleged sale of fraudulent promissory notes.

“Our complaint alleges a stunning, brazen fraud that targeted some very sophisticated institutional investors,” said Linda Chatman Thomsen, director of the SEC’s Division of Enforcement.

NATION | INCIDENT

Military jet crash kills 3

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — A fighter jet returning to a Marine base after a training exercise crashed in flames in a San Diego neighborhood Monday, killing three people on the ground, leaving one missing and destroying two homes.

The pilot of the F/A-18D Hornet jet ejected safely just before the crash around noon at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. Explosions rocked a neighborhood of half-million-dollar homes, sending flames and plumes of smoke skyward.

“The house shook; the ground shook. It was like I was frozen in my place,” said Steve Krasner, who lives a few blocks from the crash. “It was bigger than any earthquake I ever felt.”

Three people were killed in a house where two children, a mother and a grandmother were believed to be at the time of the crash, but fire officials did not immediately know who died. Another person remained missing.

“We just know that four people were inside, and three of them have been accounted for,” Fire Department spokesman Maurice Luque said.

The pilot, who ended up hanging by his parachute from a tree in a canyon beneath the neighborhood, was in stable condition at a naval hospital in San Diego, said Miramar spokeswoman 1st Lt. Kathryn Putnam.

The pilot was returning from training on the carrier USS Abra-

ham Lincoln off the San Diego coast when the plane went down, she said.

Putnam had no details on a possible cause. Investigators will review information from a flight data recorder, and there was no indication the pilot was using alcohol or drugs, she said.

Firefighters hosed down rubble more than three hours after the crash as white smoke continued to rise from it.

Authorities said the smoke was toxic, and about 20 homes were evacuated.

There was little sign of the plane in the smoking ruins, but a piece of cockpit sat on the roof of one home, and a charred jet engine lay on a street near a parked camper.

A parachute was visible in the canyon below a row of houses.

The neighborhood in the University City section of San Diego smelled of jet fuel and smoke. Ambulances, fire trucks and police cars choked the streets.

A Marine Corps bomb disposal truck was there, although police assured residents there was no ordnance aboard the jet.

Neighbors described chaos after the jet tore into the houses and flames erupted.

“It was pandemonium,” said Paulette Glauser, 49, who lived six houses away. “Neighbors were running down toward us in a panic, of course.”

Jets frequently streak over the neighborhood, two miles from the base, but residents said the imperiled

aircraft was flying extremely low.

Jordan Houston was looking out his back window three blocks from the crash when the plane passed by. A parachute ejected from the craft, followed by a loud explosion and a mushroom-shaped cloud.

Houston, 25, said a truck exploded after the driver backed over flaming debris and then jumped from the cab yelling, “I just filled up my gas tank.”

The Marine Corps said the pilot was part of the Fighter Attack Training Squadron 101, based at Miramar.

An F-18, a supersonic jet used widely in the Marine Corps and Navy and by the stunt-flying Blue Angels, costs about \$57 million.

An F-18 crashed at Miramar — known as the setting for the movie “Top Gun” — in November 2006, and that pilot also ejected safely.

The crash was near University City High School, where students were kept locked in classrooms after the crash.

Barbara Prince, a school secretary, said there was no damage to the campus and no one was injured.

Neighbors jolted by the crash said they initially thought it was the sound of gunshots, a train derailment or tractor-trailer trucks colliding.

“It was quite violent,” said Ben Dishman, 55, who was resting on his couch after having back surgery. “I hear the jets from Miramar all the time. I often worry that one of them will hit one of these homes. It was inevitable. I feel very lucky.”

NATION | COURT

U.S.: Blackwater shootings of Iraqis unprovoked

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Wild, unprovoked gunfire and grenades killed 14 innocent Iraqis and hurt dozens more in a 2007 Baghdad attack, prosecutors said Monday in announcing charges with mandatory 30-year prison terms against five Blackwater Worldwide security guards.

The Justice Department called the shooting a shocking and devastating

violation of human rights.

The harsh words echoed the outrage of Iraqis, who have waited more than a year to see how the U.S. would respond to the shooting on a busy street in the Iraqi capital.

The shooting by the largest U.S. security contractor in Iraq sparked international condemnation, launched congressional hearings and inspired anti-American insurgent propaganda.

The five security guards — all dec-

orated military veterans — surrendered in federal court in Utah, where one of them lives. The five guards walked wordlessly through a phalanx of reporters. A judge ordered the guards to report to a Washington courthouse Jan. 6, where they were expected to plead not guilty.

A sixth Blackwater guard struck a deal with prosecutors, turned on his former colleagues, and pleaded guilty to killing one Iraqi and wounding another.

WORLD BRIEFS

The Associated Press

Confessions throw

9/11 trials into confusion

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba — Khalid Sheikh Mohammed said Monday he will confess to masterminding the Sept. 11 attacks, throwing his death-penalty trial into disarray and shocking victims’ relatives who watched from behind a glass partition.

Four other men also abandoned their defenses, in effect daring the Pentagon to grant their wish for martyrdom. The judge ordered lawyers to advise him by Jan. 4 whether the Pentagon can apply the death penalty — which military prosecutors are seeking — without a jury trial.

Rioters rampage for third day in Greek cities

ATHENS, Greece — Gangs of youths smashed their way through central Athens, Thessaloniki and other Greek cities Monday, torching stores, buildings and cars in the third day of mayhem after the fatal police shooting of a teenager.

In the country’s worst rioting in decades, dozens of shops, banks and even luxury hotels had their windows smashed and burned as youths fought running battles with riot police.

Black smoke rose above the city center, mingling with clouds of tear gas.

Broken glass littered the streets.

High school and university students joined self-styled anarchists in throwing everything from fruit and coins to rocks and Molotov cocktails at police and attacked police stations throughout the day.

Mexico says gang killings more than double in 2008

MEXICO CITY — Organized-crime slayings in Mexico more than doubled in the first 11 months of 2008, as powerful drug cartels fought increasingly bloody battles among themselves, the government said Monday.

Attorney General Eduardo Medina Mora said gangland killings rose by 117 percent to 5,376 as compared to the first 11 months of 2007, when there were 2,477 slayings.

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» Walters

FROM PAGE 12

He said the areas he would primarily focus his training on would be hip flexibility, speed and power. He said his goal was to do fine tune his skills and do everything it took to help his chances.

Walters might also be in store for a position switch. He said teams have projected him not only as a defensive end but also as a defensive tackle or an outside linebacker.

"I'm also going to work on dropping back (into coverage) from the linebacker position because a lot of teams, they see me as a guy that can possibly play a little bit of outside linebacker in a 3-4 scheme," Walters said.

Walters said he has some experience as a linebacker because he played middle linebacker during his senior year of high school because his team's starter was injured after the first game of the season that year.

"The coach needed somebody good to hold down the middle and they just threw me in there," he said.

Bellantoni said Walters got some experience dropping back into pass coverage at Eastern as well. He said Walters dropped back into coverage from the defensive line in Eastern's zone blitz schemes. Bellantoni said teams that scouted Walters liked that he could play standing up and in pass coverage.

Walters said he has also been projected as an athletic defensive end that

can make the switch inside to play more defensive tackle like the New York Giants' Justin Tuck who made a similar move.

"That's one of the things I can offer, is my versatility," Walters said. "That's a big thing I'm going to work on. I'm probably going to work out with some of the linebackers when I'm done with my position drills to show I can do it all. I'm comfortable doing a lot."

Bellantoni said Walters has the size, speed and strength to make it in the NFL. He said the main thing Walters has to do is distinguish himself from the other players that have similar size and skills.

"The thing he has going the best for him is his size," Bellantoni said. "When you're looking for an NFL defensive end, he is one. Some of the 4-3 teams are looking at him as a defensive tackle."

Athletically he's going to be superior to most of the defensive tackles. It's just going to be a matter of the right team finding the right fit. He's going to have to be as big, strong and as fast as he can be."

Bellantoni said Walters could also adapt to an NFL clubhouse and get along with players whose jobs he might be going after.

"He really grew up in his time at Eastern," Bellantoni said. "I've seen him mature and become a leader when early in his career he was struggling to get himself right. I'm just real proud of the person he's become."

Scott Richey can be reached at 581-7944 or at srrichey@eiu.edu.

Panthers depth off the bench combining for 31 points, seven rebounds and four assists.

Although the 2-5 record looks like this team will continue the trend the basketball team has had the last couple of seasons, this young team, which is still getting to know each other, may be something much more.

Dan Cusack can be reached at 581-7944 or at dscusack@eiu.edu.

» Cusack

FROM PAGE 12

Defensively, the Panthers were active by forcing turnovers.

They limited the Governors to a 40 percent shooting percentage on 12-of-30 shooting from the field in the second half.

Junior guards T.J. Marion and Dewayne Wright Jr. provided the

NATION BRIEFS

Maddux announces retirement

The Associated Press

Sunday scrimmages.

LAS VEGAS — Greg Maddux grew up with the same weekend ritual as so many other American kids.

Tagging along with his big brother, he would run down to the park to play ball against the older guys from the neighborhood in regular

He met a pitching coach who preached movement over velocity, and pretty soon Maddux was striking out those stronger teenagers. Nearly three decades later, he walked away from baseball Monday as one of the greatest pitchers to put on a uniform. After 355 wins and 23 major league seasons, Maddux

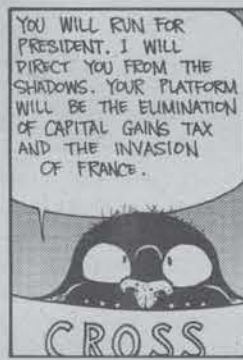
held a 30-minute news conference to announce his retirement on the opening day of the winter meetings — just minutes from his Las Vegas home.

"I really just came out here today to say thank you," he said in a ballroom at the swanky Bellagio hotel. "I appreciate everything this game has given me."

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | BY STEPHAN PASTIS



GET FUZZY | BY DARBY CONLEY



The New York Times Crossword

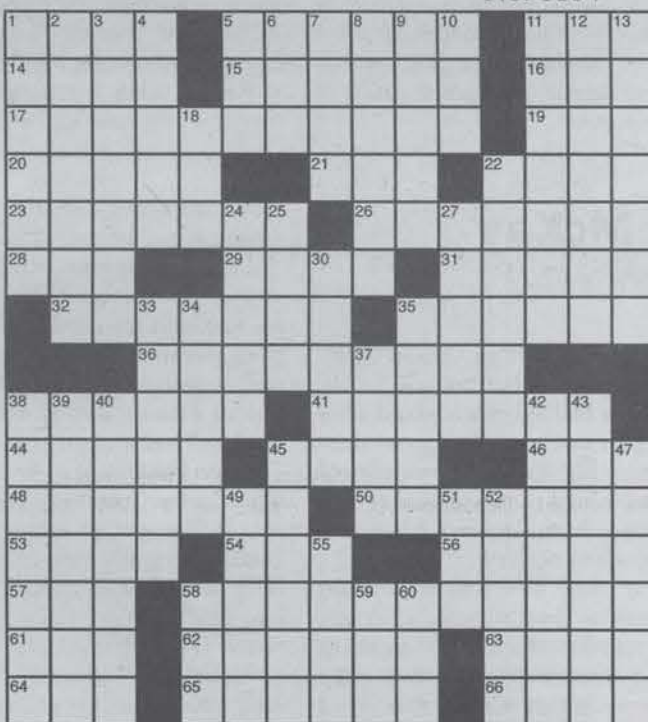
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1104

- ACROSS
- Summer drinks
 - the aisle (bipartisanly)
 - Like William Howard Taft
 - Actress Polo who played a presidential candidate's wife on "The West Wing"
 - Wilderness home
 - Ginger
 - Early November occasion in the U.S.
 - Zero
 - Singer Mann
 - The Blue Jays, on scoreboards
 - Ribicoff and Lincoln, familiarly
 - Dropped a size
 - Forestall
 - Corrode
 - Actor Rob who played a presidential aide on "The West Wing"
 - Italian battery pioneer
 - It went up in the 1960s
 - Inaugural ball holder
- DOWN
- Relaxed
 - What many Americans will do on 17-Across (as hinted at by highlighting all the V's in this puzzle's answer)
 - Where the "Mona Lisa" hangs
 - Leaves early, as an office
 - Cause for celebration: Abbr.
 - cava
 - Japanese moolah
 - Deprive, as through a loss
 - "View of Toledo" painter
 - I.R.S. workers
 - Jr.'s Jr.
 - "Holding Out for..." (1984 Bonnie Tyler hit)
 - Cereal bit
 - Sights at polling places
 - 35 is the minimum one to be U.S. president
 - New York lake
 - 7/4/1776, for one
 - Sen. Kennedy
 - Most likely to raise eyebrows
 - Iowa college town

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ACRES BRAT CALF
CAULK ROMA OVAL
EMILY POSTS YOKE
DEN DEWY MEOWED
RIDES WANDER
STEVIEWONDERS
SHAVE IRIS IKE
ERRS MEDEA AVIV
XES PAGO SWEDE
WINSLOW HOMERS
EATS IDAS
GHOSTS SKIS OAT
NEXT HELENHUNTS
AXEL OVER ESTOP
WANE PAWS ROOMS



PUZZLE BY PETER A. COLLINS AND JOE KROZEL

- Samson's undoer
- Religious recluse
- "Attack, Rex!"
- Baba
- Co. captain?
- Tirade
- High, in a way
- Beatles drummer
- Nondairy milk source
- Water pump turner
- Not recognizable by
- Kennedy-era launch
- President pro
- Long-legged shorebird
- Beethoven dedicatee
- "Stop" (Bill Clinton theme song)
- Mrs. Perón
- Zigzag
- Musicians John and Christine
- Baby buggy?
- Outspoken
- Barn topper
- Researcher's wear
- Short, as an article
- Not yet having gone before an M.P.A.A. board
- It involves reading letters out loud
- Hide
- Hidden
- Hangmen's needs
- Article of food
- Gossip
- "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" spinoff
- "Would...?"
- Bad sound at a campaign rally
- Takes too much, briefly
- "Mom" in a heart, maybe, for short

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the daily eastern news CLASSIFIEDS

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MEN'S BASKETBALL | NOTEBOOK

Cisse scores career high against Tigers

By DAN CUSACK
Assistant Sports Editor

Junior center Ousmane Cisse has gotten off to a strong start for the Eastern men's basketball team this season.

Cisse has already had two double-doubles and was an absolute force in Eastern's 71-61 victory against Tennessee State on Thursday.

He scored a career-high 22 points to go along with 10 rebounds.

Cisse said he knows the Panthers have a great perimeter game, and he hopes he can give them a presence inside.

"What he has done is simplified his game," Eastern head coach Mike Miller said after Eastern's win against TSU. "The plays he made tonight were angled lay-ups. He made plays that people set up with passes and did other things and he did a great job finishing those plays for us."

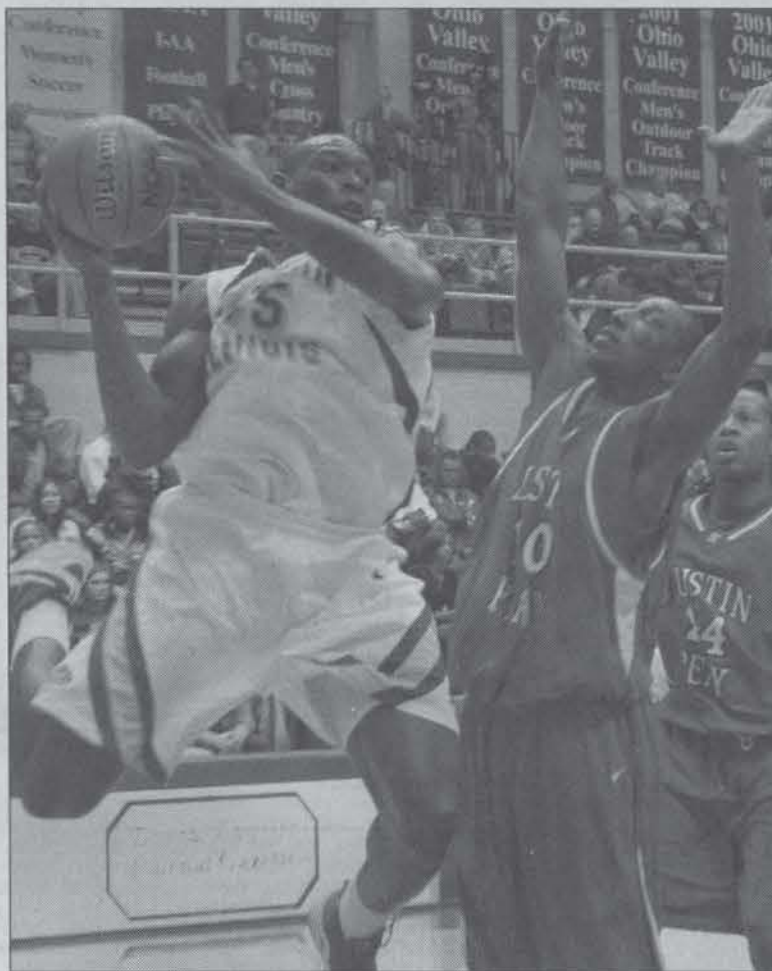
He is currently fourth on the team with 7.9 points per game, while he is first with 5.7 rebounds per game.

Marion named OVC Newcomer of the Week

Junior guard T.J. Marion was named the Ohio Valley Conference Newcomer of the Week for his performances in Eastern's win against TSU and the loss to Austin Peay Saturday.

The transfer from Aurora averaged 16 points, 4.5 rebounds and three assists per game during the stretch.

Marion's influence for the Panthers was most apparent late in games. In the loss to Austin Peay, he scored 14 of his team-high 20 points in the second half, helping the Panthers narrow a 16-point deficit to two points.



KARLA BROWNING | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior center Ousmane Cisse looks for the basket while guarded by Austin Peay junior forward Ernest Fields during Saturday night's game in Lantz Arena. The Panthers lost to the Gobs 81-73.

"I have been saying this for awhile, but he is our closer," Miller said. "He is the guy when it is the end the ball needs to be in his hands he needs to be around the ball."

Miller said Marion is a confident player who plays to his strengths. Miller said Marion is confident enough to make the big free throws at the end, while his strength is getting into the lane and creating his

own shot.

Marion is currently third on the team with 10.1 points per game, second on the team with 26 assists, while averaging 3.1 rebounds per game.

Panthers open 1-1 in conference play

Eastern opened conferences play this week going 1-1, but probably

opening eyes for the rest of the conference.

Eastern, who was picked to finish ninth in the conference out of 10 teams, knocked off Tennessee State who was picked to finish fifth in the conference and played a competitive game against Austin Peay, which won the conference last year and was picked to finish third this season.

Junior guard Dewayne Wright Jr. said the performance against Peay shows how good the Panthers can be this season.

"They are usually one of the top teams in the OVC, and we competed with them," Wright said. "It shows we can beat anybody only time will tell."

Peay and TSU played against each other last season in the OVC Conference Championship.

Peay, Morehead on top of the conference

Austin Peay (5-2) and Morehead State (3-6) both sit atop of the conference with a 2-0 record.

Peay knocked off Eastern 81-73 and Southeast Missouri 91-67.

The Governors boast the leagues' second leading scorer, senior forward Drake Reed, who is averaging 20.9 points per game. Reed scored a career-high 37 points Saturday against the Panthers.

Morehead State scored a pair of home victories with an 80-71 win Thursday against Tennessee Martin and a 79-74 win Saturday against Murray State.

Sophomore center Kenneth Faried has been a standout for the Eagles on the glass leading the conference with 10.9 rebounds per game.

Dan Cusack can be reached at 581-7944 or at dscusack@eu.edu.

» McKay

FROM PAGE 12

Jacksonville State has a women's track team but not one for the men, so McKay's coach would allow the guys that wanted to go to meets to run, but they were not allowed to score for a team, compete at conference championships, qualify for regionals or nationals.

"It was more about training because we couldn't score as an official member of a team or anything, some meets we couldn't even claim prizes or medals, which was kind of a bummer," McKay said.

McKay said he loves that there are so many people on the team at Eastern. At Jacksonville State there were only eight men on the cross country team his senior year which is a big difference from the 20 men on East-

ern's cross-country roster and even more that run distance in track.

"It is a great environment," McKay said. "There are just a lot of people pushing each other and that is something that drew me to Eastern. That and knowing about Eastern's tradition of winning and the other connections I had with the team."

Since Jacksonville State is in the Ohio Valley Conference with Eastern, McKay was no stranger to the Panthers program. More of his familiarity with Eastern came from his long-time friend, junior distance runner David Holm.

Holm and McKay had known each other since the seventh grade when they were on the same club track team in Calgary, Alberta in Western Canada.

Holm's father was the coach of the team and McKay said the Holm's had a big impact on his running career.

"Dave's dad is very nice and

knowledgeable and he helped me out a lot," McKay said. "And Dave was a sprinter at first, but over the course of a few years he was running longer distances and became a great training partner for me. We helped to push each other."

Last year after going to Chicago for spring break, McKay stopped by Charleston to visit Holm. The two went for a run together and were just talking and McKay said something about getting his masters degree. That's when Holm had an idea.

"I knew he had one year of eligibility left and I was like, 'Hey, why not see if you can come and run here at Eastern,'" Holm said. "I told him I would talk to coach Akers and I did and Akers said he was very interested."

Distance coach Geoff Masanet said McKay has added a lot to Eastern's distance program already.

"He has brought so much to our

team in his short time here already, in attitude and expectations for himself and for our team," Masanet said. "He adds excitement, depth and talent."

Masanet said McKay is a driven individual with high expectations of making it to nationals, not only for himself but for others on the team as well.

"His determination is amazing and it is something that we could all use an extra shot of sometimes," Masanet said.

McKay said he has had great experiences training at Eastern so far and is excited to get to put on his blue and white uniform and compete.

"I like blue," McKay said. "I am really looking forward to throwing that jersey on and seeing what I can do."

Brandy Provaznik can be reached at 581-7944 or at bprovaznik@eu.edu.

» Basketball

FROM PAGE 12

Canale picked up two early fouls and had to sit all but five minutes of the first half.

In the second half it was more of the same as she picked up her third foul 3 and a half minutes into the half before having to sit with her fourth foul at the 9:39 mark.

She wound up fouling out with just one minute to play in regulation but played a season-low 14 minutes and had only six points on one-for-two shooting.

But with Canale sitting, Sims and senior guard Megan Edwards picked up the slack, combining for 26 points, 11 rebounds, and nine assists.

Sims logged season-highs in points, rebounds, and assists and Edwards had a season-high five rebounds.

Canale entered the night second on the team in rebounding average with 5.5 per game.

Head coach Brady Sallee said that his players stepping up came as no surprise to him and everyone got in on the action played a really tough game.

"Everyone had to play hard, everyone had to play tough," Sallee said. "There was no place in that game for anybody that was going to play soft and we stepped up to the challenge and got a good win."

Ohio Valley Conference update

Eastern was one of three teams that opened OVC play undefeated, with Morehead State (2-0) and Tennessee Tech (1-0) being the other two.

Morehead State won a pair of home contests, coming away with a 82-54 victory against Tennessee-Martin and a 84-76 victory against Murray State, which was predicted to finish second in the OVC behind the Panthers.

Morehead State was picked in the OVC coaches poll to finish sixth in the conference.

Tennessee Tech played only one conference game during the weekend and picked up an 84-60 victory over Jacksonville State at home.

Tennessee Tech was predicted to finish seventh in the OVC while Jacksonville State was picked fifth.

Jacksonville State (0-1), Southeast Missouri St. (0-2), and UT Martin (0-2) all finished the weekend winless.

Murray State senior guard Amber Guffey leads the conference with 21.9 points per game. Teammate senior forward Ashley Hayes is second averaging 20.1 ppg.

Collin Whitchurch can be reached at 581-7944 or at cwhitchurch@eu.edu.

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ALL ACCESS WITH CHANDRA GOLDEN

Junior hurdler looks to mother for inspiration

Eastern junior hurdler Chandra Golden is coming off a solid 2007 performance, placing first and third at the Ohio Valley Conference Championships in the 55- and 400-meter hurdles, respectively. She recently sat down with Staff Reporter Bob Bajek to talk about winning two campus contests, her obsession with shoes and purses and how her mom inspires her.

How does it feel to win Miss Black EIU last spring?

It was great. It was an unexpected win. I entered the contest for the experience and for fun. It was a blessing to win.

You also won Homecoming Queen. How does that feel?

It was definitely a shock. It's not typically something that minorities, African Americans and athletes win. I feel like I was representing other African Americans and enjoyed the experience.

What is it like competing against Samantha Manto?

It is good to have her push me and me her because there are not many female hurdlers.

It makes up for it. Our competition heats up in outdoor season when she is working on 400-meter hurdles. She is good at that while it is not my favorite event.

What are your favorite movies of all-time?

My favorite movie is "Love and Basketball." I just like the storyline. I like Tyler Perry movies. They are sick, but really funny.

What is your favorite track memory?

It was when we won the Ohio Valley Conference indoor and outdoor championship in 2007.

It was a good start for me, and a good way for the seniors to go out.

Why didn't you go to Illinois State?

My mom graduated from Illinois State. I wanted to get away from home and do my own thing. Illinois State was too big.

I wanted space but not live too far. I loved the first visit here. It's like my home away from home.

Who has been an inspiration for you in your life?

My mom, Leontyne Golden, keeps me going. She's hardworking and dedicated to her family and willing to go the extra mile for us.

She takes her of my 82-year-old grandma who has dementia, my 18-month nephew and works full-time.

Have you learned any lessons from track?

You could do the unthinkable and overcome obstacles. I had a few minor injuries in the past, but when I was on the sidelines it taught me to enjoy my team in spirit, work harder and block out bad things to start fresh.

Track is a mental sport. If you think you can't do it, it won't happen. It's positive thinking.

How do you train for the 60-, 100- and 400-hurdles?

Training for the 60 and 100 are the same. However, the 400 is more of a challenge because of the longer intervals of the hurdles and longer run required to finish.

Mentally, the 400 is not my favorite race. I have to think myself in order to do it.

The 60 and 100 are fun because they are quick.



ERIC HILTNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior hurdler Chandra Golden displays the different types of the more than 80 shoes she has with her at school. As well as being a student-athlete, Golden is a senior and the reigning Miss Black EIU and the Homecoming Queen.

Do you have a hobby? If so, what are they?

I love to go shopping. For me, it's shoe shopping and collecting Coach purses. I like to say I have a shoe fetish. I think I have 70 pairs. It's too many. They are on the floor, in

the closet and under the bed. I have 15 Coach purses.

So you have a nickname? If so what is it?

They call me by my middle name Ray. The one they love to call me is

dropping letters from my first and last name. It is "C. Ray Go."

What are your goals for this season?

My goals are to break all the hurdle records, including my own 100

record. I want to help my team win the OVC indoor and outdoor titles. It's a matter of believing we could get it done.

Bob Bajek can be reached at 581-7944 or at rtbajek@eiu.edu.

NATIONAL SPORTS

BASKETBALL
New York at Chicago |
7:30 tonight on CSC



DAN CUSACK

So far, Panthers look tough

Despite the fact Eastern men's basketball team has started the season 2-5, the team looked impressive in its pair of game this weekend at Lantz Arena.

On Thursday, the Panthers held on to defeat Tennessee State for a 71-61 victory in a game where they easily could have folded.

The Panthers led by as many 13 points in the second half, but the Tigers battled back to close the margin to three points with just less than four minutes remaining.

The momentum the Panthers had carried throughout the game switched to the Tigers as an apparent tip-in by senior forward Billy Parrish was waived off by officials because of an over-the-back foul. But instead of folding, the Panthers responded.

They regrouped and outscored Tennessee State 9-3 to close out the game and pick up the win in their Ohio Valley Conference opener.

The Panthers showed moxie again on Saturday while playing perennial conference powerhouse Austin Peay.

The Governors came out of the gates early and lead by 12 points at halftime and by as many as 16 points in the second half.

But again Eastern responded to the adversity.

The team toughened up its defense and began chipping away at the Governors' lead.

The team did not wilt or lie down. They faced the challenge head on and outplayed the Governors in the second half, eventually cutting the Governors' lead to only three points with 1:26 remaining.

Although mental mistakes cost the Panthers the game, they gave a wake-up call to Austin Peay and other teams in the OVC.

The performances at Lantz had several Panthers playing a big role. In the win against Tennessee State, the Tigers made an effort to shut down Eastern's leading scorer, Romain Martin.

Junior center Ousmane Cisse responded with a double-double and a career-high 22 points.

In the loss against Austin Peay, Martin supplied the offense in the first half, but in the second half it was a team effort.

>> SEE CUSACK, PAGE 9

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | NOTEBOOK

Physical play suits team

By COLLIN WHITCHURCH
Staff Reporter

Saturday's 81-70 victory against Austin Peay had all the makings of a professional wrestling match.

Bodies flying all over the floor for loose balls, foul after foul (42 in all) being called and a Lady Govs team that was in the face of every Eastern player whenever they touched the ball.

But red-shirt junior guard Dominique Sims said that style of play suits the Panthers just fine.

"It was a battle," said Sims, who finished with 15 points, six rebounds, and six assists. "We just had to play our game and stay in our mentality and not get caught up with all the fouls and the cheap calls or whatever you want to call it. We kept telling each other, 'Let's play our game and don't worry about what they're doing.'"

The Panthers had to deal with several players who, lacking in height, made up for in post mobility, including Lady Govs' 5-foot-11 junior center Nicole Jamen.

Jamen, a native of Yaounde, Cameroon, battled the Panthers' post players throughout the game, but seniors Rachel Galligan and Lindsey Kluempers, and junior Maggie Kloak, got the better of her in the end.

Galligan finished with 20 points, including 10 straight for Eastern to open the second half, while Kloak added nine off the bench.

Kluempers had a game-high seven rebounds.

"We expected it to be a battle out there," said Kloak after the



ERIC HILTNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior forward Lindsey Kluempers tries to get around an Austin Peay player during Saturday night's game in Lantz Arena. The Panthers beat the Lady Governors 81-70 in a fiercely competitive matchup.

victory. "They have some good post players who are aggressive and strong and that's how we like to play too."

Stepping up in Canale's absence

It's been no secret that senior >> SEE BASKETBALL, PAGE 10

guard Ellen Canale has been one of the stars for the Panthers in this young season. But in Saturday's victory, Canale found herself somewhere she wasn't accustomed to in close games: on the bench.

MEN'S TRACK | SPOTLIGHT

Former Gamecock to run for Eastern

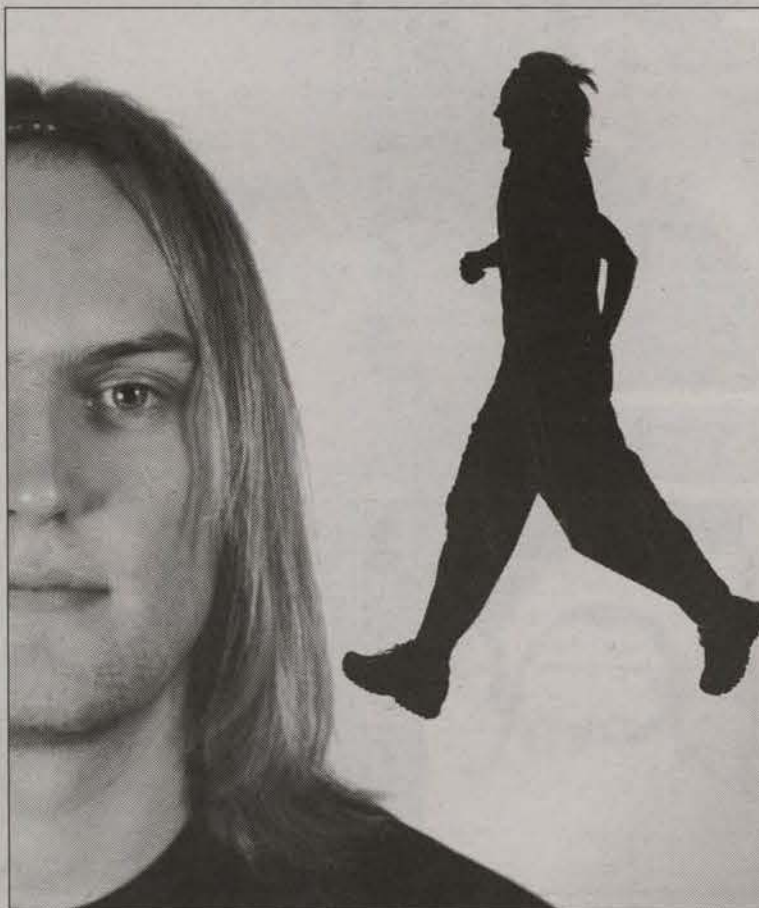
Graduate student plans to perform with distance team

By BRANDY PROVAZNIK
Staff Reporter

It was only a little more than a year ago when Ryan McKay crossed the finish line in third place in the Ohio Valley Conference Championships sporting his red and white Gamecocks uniform. Now McKay, a graduate student at Eastern, will be switching to the blue and white Panther uniform for his first official collegiate track meet this January.

McKay's former school, Jacksonville State, did not have a men's track program in order for them to be in compliance with Title IX regulations.

"That was kind of frustrating because there was interest and we could have had a pretty decent men's track team," McKay said. "I didn't understand because it wasn't like they had to provide us with scholarships or anything, they just had to allow us to compete."



ROBBIE WROBLEWSKI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Graduate student Ryan McKay will don blue and white running for Eastern's distance team. Last season, McKay ran for Jacksonville State, an Ohio Valley Conference member.

>> SEE MCKAY, PAGE 10

FOOTBALL | SPOTLIGHT

Walters headed to N.J. for training

Defensive end plans to work on versatility, playing several positions

By SCOTT RICHEY
Sports Editor

Pierre Walters ended his Eastern football career when the Panthers' knocked off Tennessee Tech 38-20 on Nov. 22 in Cookeville, Tenn.

But Walters' career as a football player is not complete. The Forest Park native will graduate in December and then move to New Jersey to continue training in hopes of continuing his career in the NFL.

"I'm proud of him because he's going to graduate here in December," Eastern defensive coordinator Roc Bellantoni said. "Other guys in the past that have gone on to train haven't got their degree. Some have and others have pushed it back."

Bellantoni said by getting his degree, Walters could focus all of his attention on training.

Walters said he recently signed with JL Sports, who has a training facility in Martinsville, N.J. Walters said Baltimore Ravens' quarterback Joe Flacco is also represented by JL Sports.

"From what I heard a lot of players all over the nation go to New Jersey and train," Walters said. "(JL Sports) contacted me way back when the season began. They let me know they were interested."

Walters said the agents at JL Sports compared him to Kendall Langford, a rookie defensive end picked by the Miami Dolphins with the first selection of the third round in last year's draft.

Langford played collegiately at Hampton — a Football Championship Subdivision school like Eastern.

"They have a lot of success with small school guys," Walters said about JL Sports.

Walters said he shouldn't have much of an adjustment moving to New Jersey because two players he knows — Tennessee State running back Javarris Williams and Western Illinois running back Herb Donaldson — are also planning on training in New Jersey.

He said Donaldson is also close to signing with JL Sports.

"There will be some guys that are familiar," Walters said. "It won't seem too far from home. I don't think I'll have a big problem with adjustment. It's just another huge step in my life. I think I'll be able to handle it well."

Walters said JL Sports has already set up a training plan for him that would be a player-specific workout.

>> SEE WALTERS, PAGE 9

EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Wednesday vs. SIUE |
7 p.m. — Lantz Arena

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Wednesday at Evansville |
7 p.m. — Evansville, Ind.

M & W INDOOR TRACK
Friday vs. Indiana State |
TBA — Lantz Fieldhouse

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Saturday vs. IPFW |
3 p.m. — Lantz Arena

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Saturday vs. Western Illinois |
7 p.m. — Lantz Arena